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Expressed in silence

Forbidden love and family troubles come together in the tumultuous portrait of a deaf and mute girl.



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Lonely migrants

Marriage is one of many barriers preventing migrant workers from integrating into the city.

Light of life

The International Light Festival opens today in Ditan Park. This year, 35 installations by Chinese and foreign designers will be exhibited through August 19.

This year's displays feature designers' reflections on society, nature, psychology and cultural impact.

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At a loss for love

Young migrants struggle to wed

By Bao Chengrong

China's more than 84 million migrant workers have modern ideas about love and marriage and dream of establishing their homes in the city.

But dreaming may be all they are able to do.

Wang Peng, 24, wears a safety helmet and suit when on his way to work at a new project in CBD. Two years ago, he migrated to the capital from a small village in Henan Province. Wang is used to city life, and hopes to remain in Beijing for the next decade.

Recently, he has faced a difficult problem: his parents want him to marry a woman in his hometown.

"I want to marry a woman I love and have a family here in Beijing. I don't want my son to live separate from me like I had to," he said.

Wang's father was part of the first generation of migrant workers. He left Wang when he was three and they seldom met after that. In his father's generation, marrying outside one's hometown was unusual.

According to the 2012 floating population development report, almost half of the 23 million floating people in China are migrant workers born in the 1980s.

An investigative report in 2009 found the young generation accounted for more than 58 percent of all migrant workers. Unlike their parents, children born in the 1980s and 1990s have little interest in returning to their hometowns.

Nevertheless, having a girlfriend would be a luxury for Wang.

He worked almost 12 hours a day and all his colleagues are men. On the weekend, he stays at home to watch TV or use the Internet. The only women he has a chance to speak to are the waitresses in restaurants.

He sees hope in his colleague Du Yu, who next month will be marrying a girl he met on QQ in May. Du is also from Henan, and shares many of Wang's interests; Wang hopes he can also find love on QQ.

However, Wang worries about the cost of maintaining a relationship. He earns 3,000 yuan per month. Not counting the money he has sent back to his parents, he



Marriage is one of many difficulties migrants face when they decide to stay in the city. has collected about 10,000 yuan. know it wouldn't work out," she said.

"If I have a girlfriend, I won't be able to save that much. Taking her to a restaurant or buying her new clothes costs a lot," he said.

Female migrants may have it easier at least financially.

Zhang Li, 22, left her home in Shanxi Province six years ago. While working as a waitress at a restaurant, she met and fell in love with a colleague from Hebei Province. Zhang said they were planning to get married but her parents firmly opposed, not allowing her to marry someone from outside Shanxi Province.

In the past few years, she has tried various other ways to find a husband, such as going on blind dates and talking to strangers on QQ. She is willing to consider anyone except a man from her hometown.

"My parents pushed me several times to go back. They said they would arrange a blind date for me, but I

Her best friend divorced last year when she found she no longer loved her husband. That was when Zhang learned that relationships tend to break down when the couple is split between urban and rural areas. It strengthened her desire to marry a man in Beijing.

Though difficult, Zhang has not given up. She is dating

will divorce him. Her situation is surprisingly common. Many migrant workers born in the 1980s are opposed to divorce, and many are pushed into marriages at home before leaving to work in the city.

The couples often have a weak foundation, and the geographical distance only exacerbates their inability to communicate and cultivate a stronger relationship.

Wang Yan, 23, said a third of the migrant workers from her hometown are divorced.

What younger workers look for in love and marriage is very different from what their parents

looked for. A report by the National Women's Federation in 2011 said that, excluding the 49.7 percent who date or marry people from their hometowns, 43.7 percent of all migrant workers fall in love with colleagues or friends of colleagues, 23 percent married with legal urban residents and 62.6 percent are women.

CFP Photo

In selecting a spouse, they value personality more than his or her material conditions. Almost 40 percent regarded a good personality as most important, and only 15.8 percent valued common interest.

Only 3.6 percent said they considered home ownership important.

Based on the study, there are several reasons male migrant workers have a hard time finding a mate: their low income leaves them with low confidence, their long work hours leave little time for socializing, their communication skills are lacking and they are often uncultured.

The couples who do marry face other challenges.

Aside from the problem of affording housing, they must also scrape and save to cover their children's high education costs, make up for their lack of social insurance and support their parents.

Many rarely see their children. Even though more than 70 percent of married migrants live with their spouse in the city, fewer than half bring their children.

"I want to marry a woman I love and have a family here in Beijing. I don't want my son to live separate from me like I had to."

a man from Hebei Province due to pressure from her parents.

Tian Linlin, 25, came to Beijing last year after an emotional conflict with her husband who works in Xi'an. She left her 2-year-old son with his grandmother in Shanxi Province and has had little contact with her husband ever since. She said she imagines that one day she

Event

Chinese Medicine Course opens

China Culture Center is having a four-session introduction to Chinese medicine, which is based upon unique concepts of the body and the cosmos, different from modern medicine and other forms of traditional medicine. This class will show students how the core ideas of Han Dynasty philosophy have formed the foundation of concepts of health and disease in Chinese medicine all the way up to the present day. We will then see how these key ideas are applied in the practice of acupuncture, herbal medicine and dietary therapy. Each class will include lecture, discussion and hands-on practice.

Where: China Culture Center, Kent Center, Anjialou, 29 Liangmaqiao Lu, Chaoyang District

When: Tuesday and Thursday evenings, August 7-16, 7:30-9 pm

Tel: 6432 9341

Cost: 200 yuan for a single class and 700 yuan for four sessions

Living smart in Beijing

— monthly meeting

International New-comer Network (INN) welcomes newly arrived foreigners to Beijing. Please invite your communities to join INN for valuable information and advice on banking, public transportation, licensing and driving, hiring maids and drivers, food safety and shopping, personal safety and more.

Where: The Capital Club Athletic Center, 3rd floor, Low Rise Capital Mansion, 6 Xinyuan Nan Lu, Chaoyang District

When: August 27, 10 am – noon

Tel: 8486 2225 ext. 136

Cost: 50 yuan

Leaving China with pets

It's never too early to start preparations to take pets overseas. ICVS's monthly meeting shares step-by-step instructions on the exit process and vaccination requirements.

The meeting will also discuss the latest regulations for China, EU countries, North America and Asia, with advice about pet transport safety and minimizing travel-related stress for pets and their owners. New airline regulations and "summer blackout" periods affecting pet travel will also be shared.

Where: International Center for Veterinary Services, 13-16 Rong Keganlan Chengshang Jie, Futong Xi Dajie, Wangjing, Chaoyang District

When: August 11, 11 am – noon

Tel: 8456 1939

Cost: Free

(By Wei Ying)



German curator Adrienne Goehler (left) introducing works at the exhibition

Artists express their concerns on sustainability

By Annie Wei

Last Sunday, Iberia Center for Contemporary Art started a one-month long exhibition calling for public awareness of environment and sustainability concerns.

The exhibition, *Examples to Follow!*, is presented by German curator Adrienne Goehler for a project co-worked by a group of German organizations such as Goethe-Institut China, the Heinnich-Boll Foundation and the German Embassy in Beijing.

Thirty-five artists representing 16 countries will present their work.

At the opening ceremony, Goehler said the world's biggest challenges, such as global warming, drought and dramatic global financial risks, are caused by mankind through the global economic ideology of "higher, faster and bigger."

"Especially in the last decade, worldwide, an increasing number of artists have expressed their deep concerns about all these developments," she said.

The exhibition aims to encourage individual action to build sustainability, she said.

The exhibition has been first opened in Berlin in 2010 and shown in cities such as Mumbai, India and AddisAbaba, Ethiopia.

For the Beijing exhibition, Goehler added nine extra artists, seven of them local.

Zhang Min, a fashion designer, said she was intrigued by Japanese artist Ayumi Matsuzaka's *All My Cycle*. It's a video the artist made showing how waste – her own, in this case – can be turned into fertilizer and used to



One piece of artwork at the exhibition lets audiences feel surrounded by used plastic bags. Photos provided by Goethe-Institut China

grow the vegetables she eats.

"It was really interesting, as I see people growing their own vegetables in the city," Zhang said.

During Matsuzaka's project, she visited a biologist to learn how to make fertilizer.

On September 1 and 4, the Iberia Center for Contemporary Art will host a workshop on composting kitchen waste with charcoal.

Qian Jun, a student from Hunan Province, said he liked artist Xu Bing's *Mustard Seed Garden Landscape Scroll*.

It's a traditional Chinese ink painting that presents the history of Chinese painting technique by combining ancient Chinese lifestyles toward nature. Chinese landscape paintings

no longer enjoy wild popularity, but Xu said, "Our lives and creations today will be tomorrow's tradition; people in the future will likewise face the question of how to treat or absorb what we leave behind."

Apart from the exhibition, other events like forums, film programs, panel discussions and workshops were also held in the center.

Exhibition

Where: Iberia Center for Contemporary Art, 798 Art Zone, 4 Jiuxianqiao, Chaoyang District

When: August 6 – September 14

Open: Daily except Mondays, 10 am – 6 pm

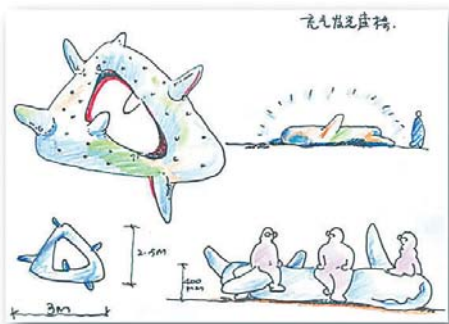
Tel: 5978 9530

Switch on Be

City throws switch on

By Liu Xiaochen

The International Light Festival will be held from August 10 to 19 at Ditan Park. Thirty-five lighting works by designers from China and abroad will be switched on when it gets dark.



Cheng Dapeng's plans for a lighting chair
Photo provided by Cheng Dapeng

The International Light Festival opens today at Ditan Park in Dongcheng district.

The festival, now in its third year, is organized by the Yonghewuan Management Committee of Zhongguancun Science and Technology Park.

This year's 35 displays feature designers' reflections on society, nature, psychology and cultural impact. Their arrangement takes advantage of Ditan's terrain to distribute light displays in every corner.

Most combine trees, ancient architecture and lawn space, and are composed mainly of LEDs and projective and interactive technology.

In addition to designers who participated during the past two years, the festival organizers invited several designers from abroad to participate in the event.

The first festival in 2010 had 15 installations. On August 28, the festival will move to Erdos and invite more designers from abroad.

OVO by ACT Team and Odeaubois

OVO, a light project that has toured Lyon, Jerusalem and Frankfurt, is finally in Beijing. The project is a collaboration between ACT Team and Odeaubois.

The egg-shape creation was born when Koert Vermeulen, a Belgian, and Marcos Vinals Bassols, a Spaniard, met Sandrine Barbeaux, the OVO project manager.

Vermeulen, a lighting designer, and Bassols, a stage designer, cooperated with Mostafa Hadi and Pol Marchandise, the Belgium sculptors from the art institution Odeaubois.

OVO refers to the Latin "ovoid," or egg-shaped. Eggs are the origin of life, and the project adapts this imagery as the origin of creation.

"We want to let the public experience it," Barbeaux said. "By climbing stairs and passing through a pool of water, participants can feel very thin drops of water in the egg. It will feel refreshing, humid and pleasant."

The display is accompanied by ambient music.



Sound of Music Notes by Zhang Jing

Photo provided by Zhang Jing

PRANA by Laurent Brunt and Helen Eastwood

Laurent Brunt and Helen Eastwood are the French program and interior designers behind PRANA, a light exhibit featured last year at the Fêtes des Lumières in Lyon.

Inspired by PRANA's Sanskrit meaning of "breath of life," the duo created an LED screen that interacts with its viewer's breath to enable him or her to experience the energy of existence. PRANA visualizes the breath of the universe.

"The aim is not to deliver a political or artistic or moral message," Brunt said. "We just

want Chinese people to come and watch, sitting or standing, with friends, family or alone, for a few minutes so they can realize: I am alive, my heart is beating – the earth is alive and the universe is breathing."

"Usually, when we work on a new project, we discuss and imagine the piece together. Then we start drawing schematics and thinking about how to build it," Brunt said.

"I am in charge of inventing new solutions to achieve our artistic goal. Then, I start writing a program, and then we discuss again and make the necessary arrangements so that we can transmit the emotions we intend."



OVO by ACT Team and Odeaubois

Photo by Lucia Carretero



Harmony by Zhang Ya
Photo provided by Zhang Ya

Up by Wang Zhe

For his third trip to Beijing, Wang Zhe, an architect at Beijing University of Architecture, is returning to bamboo to create a light installation.

The project, which is inspired by the traditional Chinese art of paper-cut, encourages people to look at light in a new way.

Wang said architecture is not just about creating space together because the interior architects create need light. "Light is the most important element in architecture. It is the medium to illuminate design."

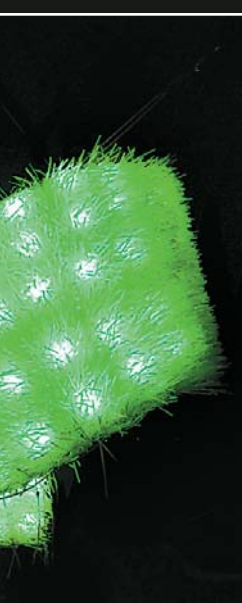
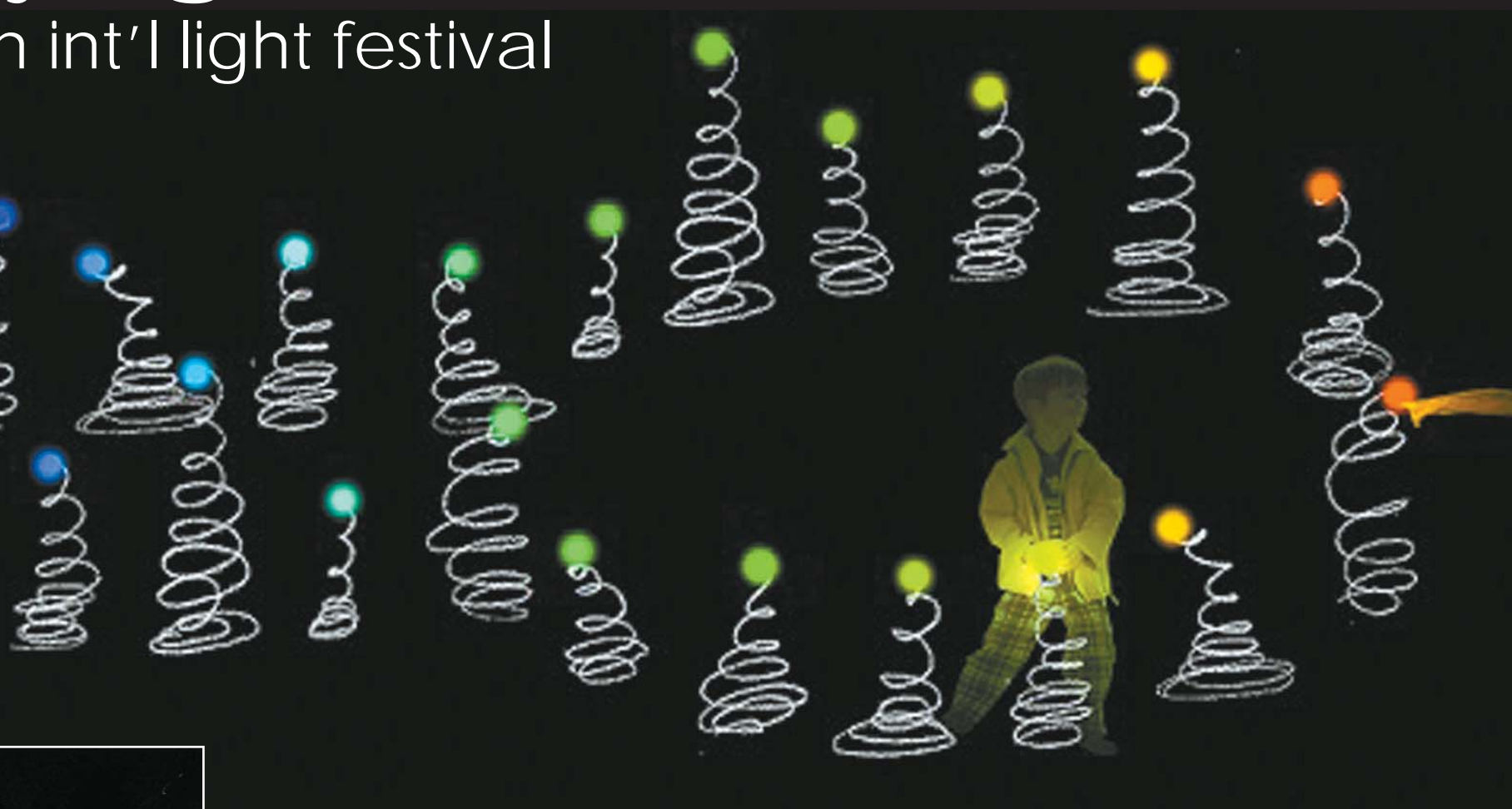
Up began construction in July. Wang said he had to find the festival's location. Wang to track down all the necessary components.

"Lighting art is my passion. It is a medium of changes in my work," Wang said.

"Up will be one [installation] that encourages people to participate," Wang said.

Beijing

an int'l light festival



Light installation provided by Zhang Yating

enfei

the festival, Wang Zhenning Hua Hui Design, is build *Up*. places lights up high, look up. ure and lighting are tied interior spaces that archi- light is what makes archi- g artistically, it is also a different points of view." on this week, though some nents have been difficult organizers are assisting the parts he needs. hobby. There are a lot k at each exhibition," [installation] that requires he said.

Origin by Fang Zhenning

Origin is the first lighting creation by Fang Zhenning, a designer, critic and curator, after a decade in Japan.

The work, completed in Hangzhou, is a circle with a diameter of 10 meters formed by more than 30 pieces. The LED lights strike outside the circle to give viewers a feeling that it is floating.

Fang chose the circle because it is one of the world's most basic, observable shapes and one seen in luminary bodies.

"Physical limitations make it difficult to plan an exhibition of lighting installations," Fang said.

"LEDs may save energy, but that doesn't mean they can be placed everywhere. The moon in the night sky is beautiful: a thousand moons in the night sky are not."

"For lighting designers, it is necessary to consider the surrounding natural environment. This is why I designed a circle instead of a round plane," Fang said.

"Japanese lighting works are very sophisticated, and we can learn a lot from their technology and implementation. I hope there will be more long-term lighting installations available throughout Beijing," he said.

Harmony by Zhang Yating

Harmony is a collaboration between China Central Academy of Fine Arts and China Women's University.

This year, the schools threw off their past obsession with thick building materials and environmentalism to build a beautiful creation out of straws.

The work was assembled and tested in Ditan Park from the beginning.

The organizers chose drinking straws as the basic building component because straws are inherently personal items: bringing so

many of them together is symbolic of many people gathering.

"For me, the most important things in any piece are the feeling and core idea," said Zhang Yating, designer of *Harmony* from China Central Academy of Fine Arts.

"There are few lights in Ditan, which makes it a great space to exhibit light art."

For Jiajia by Ding Ping

Ding Ping created *For Jiajia* for, appropriately, a 17-year-old girl named Jiajia. The work is a tool for people with disabilities, and viewers can sit in it.

"Jiajia is my friend's daughter. She was ill and became unable to walk. I designed this work to show her there are still many things to look forward to in life," Ding said. She said she hopes it can encourage others to take a broader look at the world.

As a designer, Ding said the festival provides a platform for designers to design freely,

which is unlike their daily work. "Designers are people who are constantly innovating. They have to always go outside themselves to learning and inspire others."

Ding, who also curates the festival, said she like to give advice and suggestions, and to help designers overcome the problems they encounter while assembling their creations.

"I've learned a lot about gratitude and respect while preparing for the festival all year," she said.

"Idea Switches on Beijing" – International Light Festival

Where: Ditan Park, Andingmen Wai Dajie, Dongcheng District

When: Every day until August 19, 6 am – 9 pm

Admission: 2 yuan

Tel: 6421 4657



Messy Grass by Gan Yu

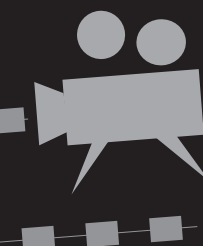
Photo provided by Gan Yu

“China Film Archives plays an important role in film archival and research”



Chen Zhuo

Song of Silence



By Niu Chen

Song of Silence is a film about family relationships and forbidden love.

This story takes place in a small fishing village in Hunan Province. Xiao Jing is a deaf and mute teenager who's disappointed by her parents' divorce. Zhang Haoyang, Xiao Jing's cop father, shuns her because he always wanted a boy, and wanted a deaf girl even less. In one scene, Zhang is reluctant to take Xiao Jing home for a short stay, saying, "I pay all her tuition and living expenses over the past years," unwilling to shoulder more obligations.

At school, Xiao Jing is without friends and taunted by male schoolmates who call her "flat boobs."

Facing a fractured family and her personal challenges, she finds no way to express herself and appears stubborn and headstrong.

Eventually, she enters into an incestuous relationship with her uncle, Li Song, who remains silent throughout the film and isolated from society.

They mostly hang out on a boat, electro-fishing and frolicking. In one scene, Li spontaneously dances to the music played on their radio while Xiao Jing watches him happily. Within their isolated space, such a relationship seems pure and innocent.

Chen Zhuo, the director, said he chose an excerpt from the Italian opera *La Traviata* as the music on the radio, which narrates the parting of two lovers. The music foreshadows the tragedy in his own film.

Xiao Jing's grandfather notices their abnormal relationship and sends Xiao Jing to live with her father.

The first day there, Xiao Jing electrocutes Zhang's goldfishes, which stuns Zhang and his pregnant girlfriend Xiao Mei. Xiao Mei is a club singer who looks tough and fearless, but is actually fragile and lacks understanding and security. Her gambler mother often riddles her with debt.

The two girls begin quarreling from day one.

Xiao Jing makes things difficult for Xiao Mei, from purposefully occupying the toilet to throwing her guitar. Clashes culminate in Xiao Mei smashing her guitar into pieces when Xiao Jing makes unbearable noise by scratching the fish tank glass with a comb.

Xiao Jing, realizing Xiao Mei's vulnerability, tapes the guitar together and begins the process of reconciliation. While Zhang is on a business trip, the girls gradually become friends, shopping, play-



Xiao Jing, a deaf and mute girl, finds no way to express herself.

ing video games and going to nightclubs together.

Xiao Mei sees, at one point, the potential of happiness between father and daughter, making her reflect on her own family and her awkward position in the trio's relationship. She eventually leaves Zhang after having an abortion.

Meanwhile, Xiao Jing is sent to the hospital because of abdominal pain, which is actually caused by miscarriage. Her whole family learns the truth and Li, the uncle, commits suicide.

In the end, Xiao Jing and Xiao Mei return to their mothers' homes and Zhang walks by a river alone. Chen said that the tone of the ending is generally positive since the two girls move on and Zhang begins reflecting on his role and responsibility of being a father.

Chen believes many of our problems in life are unperceivable. And even if we were to perceive them, we wouldn't be able to solve them. "Characters in the film are all aware that they have problems, but it is very difficult to find a so-called 'solution,'" Chen said.

Song of Silence was shot in Hunan Province,



the director's hometown, and all dialogue is in Hunan dialect. There are many scenes with boats and fish, but those images are also important metaphors. Fish can't speak and are very vulnerable, symbolizing Xiao Jing. The boat signifies home, which is always drifting and unstable.

To achieve natural effects, the director insisted on using non-professional actors. The actress who plays Xiao Mei was a club singer, and part of Xiao Mei's story is adapted from her own experience.

Yu Xuan, who plays Li Song, is a graphic designer who has a gift for acting.

The most challenging part was to find someone to play Xiao Jing. The director spent four months before deciding on a college student from the Communication University of China. The only professional actor is Li Qiang, who plays the uncle Zhang.

Chen said it was Li who felt pressured when acting with non-professionals. "Non-professionals acted freely and came up with new lines on the spot, which put Li Qiang on the spot," he said.

Born in 1976, Chen studied drawing from his father while growing up. After graduating from the Central Academy of Fine Arts with a Bachelor's degree in architecture in 2003, he studied digital video and got his Master's in that field.

Chen has long been committed to the production of contemporary arts, including animation, photography and experimental video. His works have been presented at art exhibitions both home and abroad.

Song of Silence is his first feature-length film. It won the Firebird Award at the Young Cinema Competition of the 36th Hong Kong International Film Festival.

Chen is now working on the screenplay of his second film. He said there are too many themes in *Song of Silence*. For his follow-up, he will focus more on artistic expression than storytelling. He won't start shooting it until it is fully ready.



Photos provided by Chen Zhuo



Cleaner air choices

By Angela T. Li

The air pollution in Beijing isn't getting any better, but there are measures that residents can take to decrease its harmful effects.

This week, Beijing Today considers air-purifying masks for outdoors and natural air-purifying options for indoors.

Facemasks

These masks are suitable for everyday use. They remove contaminants from the atmosphere and must only be used in places with sufficient oxygen. Make sure to check what kind of particles or chemicals they can guard against.

Using the US Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) guideline filtration levels, 95 percent, or N95, should be the minimal filtration level.

The European Standard has a lower guideline, about 94 percent, but that's also usually good enough.

M3 N95 masks

You'll find these masks at international clinics like Beijing United Family Hospital (16 yuan), foreign supermarkets like Jenny Lou's or April Gourmet (ask the cashier), or reliable websites like amazon.cn and 360buy.com.

Respro masks

Available online at pollution-china.com.

Totobobo masks

Available at Torana Clean Air Center: there's one at the central business district's Central Park (6597 9986) and another one at Europlaza Mall (8459 0785) in Shunyi District. For more information, visit toranacleanair.com.

Plants

In 1989, NASA studied the effects of household plants on the removal of indoor organic chemicals, which can be more dangerous than outdoor pollutants, and concluded that plants that require low light along with an activated carbon plant filter improved air quality by removing organic pollutants from the air.

Peace lily: Reduces harmful indoor toxins that augment the chance of cancer. It topped the list for removing all three of the most common volatile organic compounds (VOC): formaldehyde, benzene and trichloroethylene. It can also combat toluene and xylene. It requires plenty water and a modest amount of sunlight.

Spider plant: This plant cleans up benzene, formaldehyde, carbon monoxide and xylene from the air. Very resilient and grows quickly. Available in smaller sizes and can also be hanged for space efficiency.

Rubber plant: Excels at removing chemical toxins, especially formaldehyde. They do well when placed a meter or two from a window if natural light is readily available. Needs to be thoroughly watered once or twice a week. Some caution is needed if you have pets or kids because the leaves can be toxic.

Areca palm: Great for dry Beijing air, because it is also an air humidifier. Good against formaldehyde and xylene. Works well in newly varnished furniture or rooms with carpets. Grows quite slowly and needs year-round care.

Boston fern: When it releases moisture into the air, it removes air pollutants like benzene, formaldehyde and xylene.

Snake plant: Best for filtering out formaldehyde, which is common in cleaning products, toilet paper, tissues and personal care products. The bathroom is the best place to put this plant, since it also thrives in low light and steamy, humid conditions.

All of these plants should be available at a local greenhouse or a plant market like the one on Lady Street. For more information about good air-purifying plants, try the book *How to Grow Fresh Air*, based on NASA's research, available at amazon.cn.

If your space is limited, you can consider a wall garden, which is a great space-saving alternative for small apartments and single rooms.



CFP Photo

Pearson Longman English World

uneasy / not easy

- ✗ It was *uneasy* for them to climb the hill.
- ✓ It was *not easy* for them to climb the hill.



- 'Not easy' should be used for the opposite of 'easy'.
- 'Uneasy' has a different meaning, of being anxious about a situation you feel may not go well:

✓ *Laura was uneasy about going alone.*

wear / put on

- ✗ At 7 a.m. I get up and *wear* my uniform.
- ✓ At 7 a.m. I get up and *put on* my uniform.



- The Chinese 穿 / Cantonese 著 can mean both 'put on' and 'wear'.
- In English a student 'puts on' his/her uniform in the morning and 'wears' it most of the day:

✓ *Tomorrow we don't have to wear our uniforms as it's a dress-down day.*

Exercise

Choose the correct words:

1. uneasy / not easy
 - a I felt _____ about lending him the money.
 - b Raising the money to buy it was _____.
2. wear / put on / try on
 - a When I _____ my shoes this morning I found they were still wet.
 - b My other pair had a hole so I had to _____ the wet ones all day.
 - c The shop assistant wouldn't let me _____ the skirt before I bought it.

Answers: 1. a. uneasy b. not easy 2. a. put on b. wear c. try on



Book title:

Common English Errors in Hong Kong (New Edition) 是一本专门为香港初、中级英文水平的学生所编写的自学教材。本书指出并纠正大量本地学生所常犯的英文文法与字法使用上的错误，并附有非常生动活泼的插图，深受青少年学生的青睐。

资料来源: Language Leader (Pre-intermediate) by Ian Lebeau and Gareth Rees (Pearson Longman)

Chaoshan fine dining

By Annie Wei

As the folk saying goes, "If someone often dines in fine Chaoshan restaurants, he'll get to know quality gourmet."

Chaoshan cuisine is famous for being selective, utilizing a variety of cooking techniques and bringing out the flavors of fresh ingredients.

Several of its dishes became popular through the seven-episode TV documentary *A Bite of China*, which instantly increased demand for Chaoshan eateries in town.

Recently opened Camilla Chinese Cuisine on East Third Ring Road is recommended for its wide selection of traditional Chaoshan dishes. The restaurant aims more at corporate clientele, but it doesn't turn anyone away at the door.

For starters, the lushui, Chaoshan-style marinated meat and tofu, is a must. Lushui, or marinating sauces, are the essence of Chaoshan's daily dishes. They're come in a dozen variations.

We recommend the goose lushui (980 yuan). The

goose, raised in Chaoshan, is big and tender. It's prepared with 14 kinds of ingredients over four hours.

Other cold dishes include steamed fresh red peanuts, fresh turnips marinated with



Crab, 798 yuan per 500 grams

vinegar and sugar and fried spring rolls with water lily roots.

Another main aspect of Chaoshan cuisine is seafood, as the region borders the coast.

The giant conch (880 yuan per 500 grams) is an expensive ingredient that has a crisp and tender texture. The most common cooking technique for

conch is simply boiling.

Camilla uses long-stewed soup with ham to prepare the conch.

To make sure the conch is as fresh as possible, the chef will cook it in front of customers on a trolley.

Butter fish is a Chaoshan favorite, as it is very tender. You can find butter fish steamed in soup (88 yuan) here: the thickness and strong flavors match the fish's texture.

The steamed bitter melon (98 yuan), a favorite of southern diners, is soft and flavorful. The restaurant claims it uses only organic bitter melon, and steams it with free-range Chaoshan pork in a clay pot. Some northern diners may not be used to the bitterness.

Most people know haozajian (98 yuan), a deep-fried oyster pancake made famous as a Taiwanese street food. In fact, Chaozhou's haozajian tastes even better: clean and fresh oysters are mixed with salt and egg paste and deep-fried. When it's almost ready, it's topped with minced shallots.



Butter fish steamed in soup, 88 yuan

Photos provided by Camilla Chinese Cuisine

Camilla Chinese Cuisine

Where: 3/F Soho Nexus Center, 19 Dong Sanhuan Lu, Chaoyang District
Open: 11 am - late
Tel: 5625 5888/5967 0567

BQ 北京青年周刊

品牌与星光齐飞 价值共美誉一色
皇家加勒比 2012
BQ明星品牌价值榜

2012年9月16日
亚洲巨无霸“海洋航行者号”
盛大启动